

**Effective immediately all leaf-blowers are banned from use  
in the Village of Sleepy Hollow  
April 3, 2020**

Dear neighbors:

The Board of Trustees and I have decided that leaf-blowers will be banned for the duration of the COVID 19 pandemic. This is for the health and safety of our community.

COVID 19 is fundamentally an insidious respiratory condition. To quote Trustee John Leavy (Lt. FDNY, ret.), having particulates of dust and dung blown into the air with the force that a leaf blower brings creates a HAZMAT situation.

We breathe those particulates; they are getting into and irritating our lungs. Particulates hang in the air for hours after a leaf-blower has been shut off. With Gov. Cuomo ordering NY on PAUSE, our neighborhood streets are far more active, especially during the daylight hours when our children would be -- under normal conditions -- in school.

Landscapers are being informed of this rule as well. For whatever reason, many landscapers are not providing masks for their workers. We are concerned about the health of those workers as well. (And a quick apology about our notices regarding landscapers: NYS has moved them back and forth between the "essential" and "non-essential" designations. This past Wednesday they were deemed non-essential, so they had to shut down. On Friday, they were switched back to essential, so they are allowed to continue work. We will try to keep you posted on these changes, and thank you for your patience.)

Having lawns completely cleared of leaves is not essential. What is essential is that we maintain as healthy an environment as possible. Please, please adhere to this new rule for the health and safety of our community.

Thank you for your understanding at this time.

Ken Wray  
Mayor